

Serial No. 09/691,163
Amdt. dated August 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 3, 2004

Docket No. P-141

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-9 have been amended and claims 10-12 have been added. Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the foregoing discussion is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The claims have been amended in light of the comments stated in the Office Action and to better correspond with U.S. claim drafting practice. Further, the following explanation addresses the specific questions stated in the Office Action.

Claim 1 has been amended to remove the language “the step in which.”

Regarding the feature “the SCH is not allocated among the BTSSs in an active set” in claim 1, it is respectfully noted an active set of BTSSs means BTSSs that are currently communicating with the mobile terminal. For example, in a Soft Handover (SHO) with three base stations (a 3-way SHO), all three base stations are in the active set. Base stations neighboring these three base stations are neighboring base stations.

Further, the pilot strength of the three base stations communicating with the mobile terminal is measured. One of the base stations allocates a SCH and FCH to the mobile terminal, and the other two base stations do not allocate SCH and FCH to the terminal and do not transmit a pilot signal. When the strength of the pilot signal of one of the two base stations

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where the FCH and SCH are not allocated is greater than the base station that is allocated the FCH and SCH, a PSMM is transmitted requesting SHO.

Regarding claim 2, “separately performed” means the handoff of the FCH and SCH are separately performed on a same mobile terminal.

Regarding claim 3, “having a pilot strength strong enough to combine” means that a signal from a BTS is strong enough to hold a combination of FCH and SCH pilot signals.

Regarding claim 5, “if the allocation of the SCH is required as the result of the analysis” means that the pilot strength of the BTS where the SCH is allocated is smaller than the other active BTSs where the SCH is not allocated, and thus a PSMM is sent from the mobile station requesting SCH to be allocated to one of the other active BTSs.

Regarding “the active set are not allocated to the SCH when a DROP of the BTS to which the SCH is allocated is required as the result of the analysis” means that the SCH is not allocated to an active BTS, in other words, the signal is about to be dropped. When the signal is about to be lost and the BTS is not able to be able to communicate with the mobile terminal, the mobile station sends a PSMM requesting for a DROP handoff of the BTS where the SCH is currently allocated.

Regarding claim 6, “ the release of the SCH resources from the BTS to which a SCH is allocated is performed” means that if the pilot strength of the other BTS where the SCH is not allocated is larger than that of the BTS where the SCH is allocated and is not larger than a T_ADD threshold pilot strength, the SCH is reallocated to the other BTS and the original BTS

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no longer contains SCH and will not communicate with the mobile station. Thus, the new BTS and the mobile station will communicate.

Regarding claim 7 “it is judged that a new pilot signal having a pilot strength larger than the pilot strength of the BTS to which a SCH is allocated is to be added” means that once the new pilot signal with a larger pilot strength is found, this new pilot signal will be considered to be added to the active BTS set. However, if this new pilot signal is measured to be able to obtain a pilot strength more than a reference threshold as well, which is a value set by a radio environmental test, the ADD handoff is performed to allocate both FCH and SCH simultaneously to the BTS with new pilot signal.

Regarding claim 8, this claim defines the reference threshold. It is respectfully noted that the reference threshold is set higher than the pilot strength of T_ADD for ADD handoff. For DROP handoff, the reference threshold is also set higher than the pilot strength of T_DROP.

Regarding claim 9, “prevent an excessive waste of radio resources” this phrase has been removed from claim 9.

Accordingly, in light of the above comments, it is respectfully requested this rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, new claims 10-12 have been added to set forth the invention in a varying scope, and Applicant submits that the new claims are supported by the originality filed specification.

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Further, the specification has been amended to correct minor informalities. It is believed no new matter has been added.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, David A. Bilodeau, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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